

KEPONE TASK FORCE
Conference Room 5-A
Third Meeting - 4/14/76

The Kepone Task Force met at 1:00 p.m. today with Dr. Max Eisenberg presiding. Present were 24 persons representing all levels of government and all sub-task committees. Reports on progress are as follows:

Health Effects: Dr. Friedlander reported that blood samples were taken from 12 of the 25 residents living in the area of Allied Chemical, from four persons whose work or recreation takes them to Swann Park frequently, and from five other persons whose samples were used as controls. No kepone was found at detectable levels, and the committee recommends discontinuance of health effects testing for kepone in the area.

Disposal: Mr. Samuel Morekas, reporting for the committee, identified three areas of concern: the Swann Park playground, the dumping area on Allied property, and stored waste.

Swann Park: Although kepone in soil samples showed only trace levels, the committee recommended that soil and sod be removed and replaced in a 100 foot wide strip along the fence abutting Allied's property.

Dumping area: Because of the presence of trace amounts of kepone as well as other contaminants, the committee has recommended that Allied's consultant consider, as an interim measure, the spraying of the area with a bituminous substance laced with gravel in order to seal the surface. In addition, test wells at various locations are being drilled in order to ascertain the extent of leeching, if any, of these contaminants into the groundwater. Groundwater is not used for drinking purposes. Results from these tests should be apparent by the next meeting of the Task Force.

Stored waste: Four options are being considered: (1) Incineration of drums not containing arsenic. (2) Incapsulating waste in concrete with disposal in a landfill. (3) Chemical reduction to solids which can be mixed with concrete or molded into inert blocks. (4) Disposal out of State. (5) Coordinate with Virginia's method of disposal.

Air Quality: Two weeks of samples from two high-volume samplers near the Allied property and one sampler (at Simpsonville) as a control, preliminary results have yielded no appreciable amount of kepone. Samples will be taken as I-95 construction continues to determine if kepone levels rise as a result of earth disturbance.

Marine Life: Three areas of concern identified.

Crabs: As a result of extensive sampling from all areas included in the migratory pattern (dredged samples) of crabs, the committee has determined that only trace amounts of kepone - well under the action level - are present in the Maryland blue crab. Sediment samples taken concurrently do not indicate any levels of kepone.

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Oysters: All private leased beds containing seed oysters obtained from the James River in Virginia were sampled and tested. Only one sample out of 30 showed a kepone level above the action level. This bed has been ordered to be bouyed-off and may not be touched for a year. At that time, the Department will again sample and test that bed.

Finfish: An extensive description of the life and migratory habits of finfish was given by Benjamin H. Florence, a marine biologist with the Department of Natural Resources. Lee Strait of the Food and Drug Administration gave an update on Virginia's finfish situation. This information bears relevance to Maryland, in that, if Virginia clears a species of finfish, Maryland will not need to sample it. In addition, market wholesale samples will be collected and analyzed.